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Urban District Council of Washington

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1946

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WILLIAM D. MILLAR,  
M.B., B.S., B.Hy. (Durh.), D.P.H.

J. MITCHELL,  
M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector.

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1947

PELAW-ON-TYNE:  
CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY'S PRINTING WORKS.

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## *Urban District Council of Washington.*

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### List of Councillors for the year 1946-47.

*Chairman :*

Councillor J. R. COXON, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman :*

Councillor M. ALLON.

Councillor T. ANDERSON.	Councillor R. MCGLEN.
„ L. BOWMAN.	„ W. OLDS.
„ R. COATES.	„ R. PARKIN.
„ A. W. COLE, J.P.	„ R. PATTERSON.
„ J. M. CULLINAN.	„ W. PURDY.
„ H. DYSON.	„ H. PRICE.
„ C. HALL.	„ A. RODDAM
„ W. HASKETT.	„ Mrs. J. TEMPEST.
„ W. JAMIESON.	„ Mrs. M. THOMPSON.

*Clerk to the Council :*

M. ANDERSON (Deceased).

ARTHUR C. JONES, A.C.A.

## Staff of the Health Department.

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*Medical Officer of Health :*

WILLIAM D. MILLAR, M.B., B.S., B.Hy. (Durh.), D.P.H.

*Senior Sanitary Inspector :*

J. MITCHELL, M.S.I.A.

*Additional Sanitary Inspector :*

J. P. BARTON, M.S.I.A.





*Council Chambers,  
Washington,  
Co. Durham.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Urban District Council of Washington.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MESDAMES, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the district and the work of the Health Department for the year 1946.

The birth-rate remains almost the same as in 1945, the figures respectively being 19·48 and 19·18 per 1,000.

The death rate also shows little change from last year, being 11·09 per 1,000 as against 10·8 per 1,000.

The infantile mortality rate is rather higher this year than in 1945, the figures being 60·2 per 1,000 live births compared with 50·9 per 1,000 live births. The two main causes of death in children under one year of age were premature birth and chest diseases, e.g., bronchitis and pneumonia.

The incidence of infectious diseases still remained low during the year, 20 cases of scarlet fever were notified and 14 cases of diphtheria.

There were 17 notifications of respiratory tuberculosis as compared with 15 in 1945, 6 of these were males and 11 females. There were 3 notifications of non-respiratory tuberculosis as against 2 in 1945.

The number of deaths from respiratory tuberculosis in 1946 was 7 compared with 4 in 1945, and 3 deaths occurred from the non-respiratory type of the disease as against 1 the previous year.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the assistance afforded me by the Chairman and Members of the Council, and by my fellow officials, especially those on the staff of the Health Department.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. D. MILLAR, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.(Durh.), D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION A.

### Statistics of the Area.

Area of the Urban District	...	...	...	...	5,758 acres
Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1946 according to rate books)	...	...	...	...	4,476
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£65,654
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£245
Population	...	...	...	...	17,040

**Extract from Vital Statistics.**

Live Births—

Birth-rate per 1,000 per estimated resident population ... 19·48

Still Births—

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... .. 34·8

Deaths—

Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ... 11·09

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List)—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29—Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis...	1	..... 2·9
No. 30—Other Maternal causes... ..	0	..... 0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ... ..	<u>1</u>	<u>..... 2·9</u>

Death-rate of Infants under 1 year of age—

All Infants, per 1,000 live births ... .. 60·2  
Legitimate Infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 61·18  
Illegitimate Infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... 45·45

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	... ..	29
„ Measles (all ages)	... ..	0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	... ..	1
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	... ..	2

# Vital Statistics.

## *Births.*

The birth-rate increased from 19·18 in 1945 to 19·48 in 1946.

The birth-rate of Washington compared with the rest of the country generally is as follows :—

				Rate per 1,000 of population.
England and Wales ...	...	...	...	19·1
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns .				22·2
148 Smaller Towns ...	...	...	...	21·3
London Administrative County	...	...	...	21·5
Washington Urban District	...	...	...	19·48

## *Still Births.*

England and Wales ...	...	...	...	0·53
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns .				0·67
148 Smaller Towns ...	...	...	...	0·59
London Administrative County	...	...	...	0·54
Washington Urban District	...	...	...	0·70

## *Deaths.*

The death-rate in 1946 was 11·09, compared with 10·8 in 1945.

The following figures show comparisons :—

England and Wales ...	...	...	...	11·5
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns .				12·7
148 Smaller Towns ...	...	...	...	11·7
London	...	...	...	12·7
Washington Urban District	...	...	...	11·09



The statistics regarding causes of death, supplied by the Registrar-General, classified according to sex and the 36 divisions of the Registrar-General's Short List of Causes, are set out below.

### Causes of Death in Washington Urban District, 1946.

Causes of Death.							Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES .. .. .							96	93
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .. .. .						..	..
2	Cerebro Spinal Fever .. .. .						..	..
3	Scarlet Fever .. .. .						..	..
4	Whooping Cough .. .. .						1	..
5	Diphtheria .. .. .						..	..
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .. .. .						1	6
7	Other Forms of Tuberculosis .. .. .						..	3
8	Syphilitic Diseases .. .. .						..	1
9	Influenza .. .. .						1	4
10	Measles .. .. .						..	..
11	Acute Polio Myelitis and Polio Encephalitis .. .. .						..	..
12	Acute Infantile Encephalitis .. .. .						..	..
13	Cancer of Buc. Cavity and Œsop. (M) Uterus (F). .. .. .						1	2
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum .. .. .						2	5
15	Cancer of Breast .. .. .						..	2
16	Cancer of all other Sites .. .. .						11	6
17	Diabetes .. .. .						..	..
18	Intracranial Vascular Lesions .. .. .						8	14
19	Heart Disease .. .. .						26	18
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System .. .. .						3	2
21	Bronchitis .. .. .						11	3
22	Pneumonia .. .. .						3	6
23	Other Respiratory Diseases .. .. .						2	..
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .. .. .						..	..
25	Diarrhœa (under 2 years) .. .. .						1	1
26	Appendicitis .. .. .						1	..
27	Other Digestive Diseases .. .. .						2	1
28	Nephritis .. .. .						2	6
29	Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis .. .. .						..	1
30	Other Maternal Causes .. .. .						..	..
31	Premature Birth .. .. .						4	4
32	Con. Mal. ; Birth Injuries, Infant. ; Dis. .. .. .						2	..
33	Suicide .. .. .						..	..
34	Road Traffic Accidents .. .. .						..	..
35	Other Violent Causes .. .. .						4	4
36	All Other Causes .. .. .						10	4

GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE  
(Statistical Branch),  
SOMERSET HOUSE,  
STRAND, W.C.2.

## **SECTION B.**

### **General Provision of Health Services for the Area.**

A list of Public Health Officers will be found on page 4.

#### **Laboratory Facilities.**

There has been no change in the laboratory arrangements during the past year. Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in accordance with arrangements made between the County Council and Durham University.

#### **Ambulance Facilities.**

In cases of infectious disease one ambulance is provided by the Chester-le-Street Joint Hospital.

For cases of accident or sickness two ambulances are provided by the Local Authority.

#### **Hospital.**

Persons who are suffering from an infectious disease are removed to the Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Chester-le-Street.

Other hospitals outside the district which are made use of for the treatment of medical and surgical cases are :—

1. Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Walker Gate,  
Newcastle-on-Tyne.
2. Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
3. Fleming Memorial Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
4. Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
5. Throat, Nose, and Ear Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
6. Eye Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
7. Eye Infirmary, Sunderland.
8. Royal Infirmary, Sunderland.

## SECTION C.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

#### 1. (i) *Water Supply.*

The Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Gateshead Water Co., and the South Shields and Sunderland Water Co., supply the Urban District with water, which is satisfactory in quantity and quality. The gallonage per head of population is 28 per day. Four samples of water were taken during the year and submitted to King's College, Newcastle, for examination. Favourable reports were received in each case.

#### (ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.*

The sewage of the District is discharged into the River Wear at three points, one near Barmston Forge, and two at Washington Staithes. The waste matter at Barmston only is treated in settlement tanks before being allowed to flow into the river. The settlement tanks were cleansed during the year.

#### 2. *Rivers and Streams.*

Favourable reports as to the condition of the various water-courses in the district were received during the past year.

#### 3. (i) *Closet Accommodation.*

At the end of the year the various types in use within the Urban District were as follows :—

				1944.	1945.	1946
Water-closets	...	...	...	4,664	4,954*	4,990
Ash-closets	...	...	...	36	36	35
Ash-pit Privies	...	...	...	2	2	2
Chemical-closets	...	...	...	62	12†	14

\* Increase due to the inclusion of Government Property.

† Decrease due to the discontinued use of Public Shelters.



(ii) *Public Cleansing.*

The scavenging service, as in previous years, was carried out chiefly by direct labour, 15 isolated premises being dealt with by private individuals.

The personnel includes 11 loaders and 3 drivers, and with 3 seven-cubic yard vehicles (1 S. and D. Freighter and 2 Karrier Bantams) provide the Urban District of 5,758 acres, with a service varying from 4 to 6 days throughout the year. The number of dwelling-houses and other premises dealt with total 4,700, compared with 4,520 during the previous year. The allocation of the district into three cleansing areas is the recognised better method of collection, but with the ever-increasing number of dwelling-houses and new businesses, the Council recognise the need of a development scheme. The scheme will involve the use of a speedier vehicle with larger loading capacity, increased labour, and controlled tipping in selected areas. The preliminary step has already been taken by the decision to order a Dennis vehicle of 10-cubic yards loading capacity, including a loader's cabin. The experiment of such a vehicle in use within the Urban District will greatly assist in the proposal and decision to make further improvements to the benefit of the ratepayers.

The disposal of refuse is by tipping in disused quarry workings and on low-lying agricultural land upon request being made to the Council by the owners or tenants. In the Usworth Colliery, Springwell, and Washington Wards the major part of filling in and levelling took place. Approximately 15 per cent. of the 9,240 tons involved was utilised on agricultural land, while the major portion was used in the filling in of the Sandhole in Oxclose Road and the Stone Quarry at Springwell, which have been in disuse for some considerable time. Both tipping points were periodically trimmed as circumstances would allow and the former was treated on two occasions for minor outbreaks of fire.

Complaints of dust nuisance from all tips in use were received during the year and appropriate action was taken to minimise or remove the complaints. Vermin infestation was not in evidence at any of the existing tips, but one completed tipping area in the Usworth Colliery Ward was treated.

The total estimated quantity of refuse, including household and trade waste, collected and disposed of was 9,240 tons, an increase of

280 tons compared with the previous year. The increase in tonnage was due chiefly to the number of additional premises (186) that are now included for collection.

The total cost for the service during the year was £4,300.

UNIT COSTS.

Expenditure per ton per annum	...	...	...	9s. 7d.
„ per 1,000 houses per annum	...	...	...	£932
„ per house per week	...	...	...	4·3d.
The estimated weight per house per year	...	...	...	1·96 tons.

A comparative statement of the scavenging costs for the three previous years and the year prior to the war is given herewith :—

Year.	Annual Cost.	Approximate cost per house.	
	£	s.	d.
1938-39	2,418	10	8
1944-45	3,779	16	8
1945-46	4,142	18	4
1946-47	4,380	18	7

(iii) *Salvage.*

The collection of salvage materials was carried out on similar lines as in previous years. The dual method of refuse removal and salvage collection has been in operation since 1940. The use of trailers facilitating the storage of salvage until deposited at depot. The sorting, grading, and ultimate despatch to merchants of the various materials was carried out by two men at Shop Houses.

The increase of small pig and poultry keepers and the shortage of animal feeding stuffs gave rise to systematic private collections of kitchen-waste among small communities throughout the whole Urban area, with the result that no kitchen-waste was collected and disposed of by the local authority during the year under review. Similarly, the increased activities of hawkers, &c., have added their contribution to the cause of reduced quantities and values of other materials collected.



The following returns show the quantities and value of materials collected by Council employees since the inception of salvage within the Urban area :—

Year.					Weight. Tons. cwts.		Value. £ s. d.		
1940-41	...	...	...	...	93	0	.....	339	16 0
1941-42	...	...	...	...	222	1	.....	811	5 7
1942-43	...	...	...	...	211	2	.....	832	11 8
1943-44	...	...	...	...	199	1	.....	824	12 8
1944-45	...	...	...	...	122	1	.....	604	3 4
1945-46	...	...	...	...	82	19	.....	468	8 4
1946-47	...	...	...	...	60	0	.....	417	15 10
Total				...	990	4	.....	£4,298	13 5

(iv) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area.*

(a) Number and Nature of Inspections.

Visits and re-visits to premises under Public Health and							
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	866
Visits to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
„ Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
„ Work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
„ Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ Pig-keepers' premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
„ Fish and Fruit Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Visits paid in connection with Infectious Diseases and							
disinfection of premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Visits to Tents, Vans, Sheds, and similar structures...							5
Total number of Visits							1,088

INFESTATION.

The work of treatment for rats within the sewerage system in the urban district was carried out by the method as prescribed by the Ministry of Food.

Complaints received during the year regarding surface infestations numbered 28, of which 3 appeared to be unjustified, 1 was in respect of premises previously notified.

The following table shows the kind of premises involved and the nature of the infestation :—

Premises.			Nature of Infection.		
			Minor.	Major.	Reservoir.
Dwelling-houses	...	...	4	0	0
Food Shops	...	...	1	0	0
Other Shops	...	...	0	0	0
Factories	...	...	0	0	0
Animal Shelters	...	...	8	0	0
Other places	...	...	2	0	0

(b) Number of Notices served and complied with.

	Number of Informal Notices Served.	Number of Statutory Notices Served.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwelling-houses—Structural defects .	183	23	162
„ Foul conditions ...	2	...	2
„ Overcrowding ...	...	...	...
Lodging-houses ...	...	...	...
Dairies and Milkshops ...	1	...	1
Cowsheds ...	...	...	...
Bakehouses ...	...	...	...
Slaughterhouses ...	...	...	...
Ash-pits and Privies ...	1	...	1
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	1	...	1
Water-closets ...	18	...	18
Defective Yard Paving ...	...	...	...
House-drainage—			
Defective Traps ...	13	...	13
No disconnection from Sewers .	...	...	...
Other Faults ...	23	...	23
Water Supply ...	15	...	15
Pigsties ...	...	...	...
Animals improperly kept ...	...	...	...
Offensive Trades ...	...	...	...
Smoke Nuisances ...	...	...	...
Other Nuisances ...	8	...	6
Ash Bins ...	85	1	85
Totals ...	350	24	327

(v) *Shops Act, 1934.*

Under the Shops Act, 1934, inspection of 44 shops in the district was carried out during the year. It was found necessary in 7 cases to serve informal notices on owners of shops having regard to the lack of suitable and sufficient water-closet accommodation.

(vi) *Smoke Abatement.*

No action taken during the year.

(vii) *Swimming Baths.*

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

(viii) *Eradication of Bed Bugs.*

						Infested.	Disinfested.
(1) Council houses	...	...	...	...	...	15	15
Other houses	...	...	...	...	...	20	20
(2) Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs	...	...	...	...	...	Zaldecide or Foompest.	
(3) Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses	...	...	...	...	...	Zaldecide or Foompest.	
(4) Whether work carried out by the Local Authority or by a Contractor	...	...	...	...	...	Local Authority	
(5) The measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	None	

4. *Schools.*

The schools in the area under the jurisdiction of the County Council of Durham and the water supply and sanitary conditions are adequate and satisfactory.



*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Washington Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MESDAMES, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure to present to you my Eleventh contribution to the Annual Report on the work of your Health and Cleansing Department during the year 1946.

The post-war conditions and the Government's scheme of reconstruction have provided new difficulties to surmount, and controls are not the least of the troubles. A year of control on building and on building materials has gone a long way towards meeting the Government's desire to direct materials and labour to certain areas throughout the country where overcrowding and war-damaged houses created a situation that called for immediate action. Nevertheless, the acquiring of building materials seem to offer little difficulty to business concerns and the larger owners of property.

The problem of the small owner still confronts the Sanitary Officer where he is, in many cases, unwilling or unable to afford the expenditure on his property. Much of this property is not only on the "border line" but is beyond consideration of making the property reasonably fit for human habitation. Such conditions have to be seen to be believed, and will surely be the subject of some guidance and direction from the Ministry of Health in the very near future.

During the year under review the Glebe Colliery spoil bank had further attention from the Coal Company, but still the nuisance of fumes and smell persisted. Near the end of the year a determined effort was made by the owners. The method suggested and agreed upon was to bulldoze the top three feet from the heap and cover the surface with at least one foot of inert material. The spraying of the spoil bank with water before and during the process of bulldozing facilitated matters and did much to allay the complaints of dust nuisance experienced on a previous occasion when bulldozing was resorted to. The action taken has so far been successful and hopes are entertained that no future action will be necessary.

A summary of the work is given under the various sections, and I wish to take the opportunity of thanking the Council, members of the staff and others for their able assistance, co-operation, and interest in matters affecting the well-being of the community within the Urban District during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MITCHELL, M.S.I.A.,  
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

## SECTION D.

### Housing.

#### 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 702
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 866
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. Nil.
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... Nil.
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 40
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 115

#### 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 102

#### 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 13
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
  - (a) By Owners ... 10
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners... Nil.



B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. 26
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
  - (a) By Owners ... .. 25
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil.

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. Nil.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... .. Nil.

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. Nil.
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. Nil.

During the period under review there were 62 houses erected and occupied within the Urban District, viz. :—

Aluminium prefabricated houses	...	...	...	...	40
Permanent brick houses by Local Authority	...	...	...	...	20
Houses built by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	2

In the same period the following houses were removed from the Register as being demolished or converted for purposes other than for human habitation, viz. :—

			Houses	No. of Persons Displaced
Wards Buildings	...	...	6	19
Bowes Crescent	...	...	22	72
			<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	...	28	91
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Overcrowding within the Urban District has increased appreciably during the year.

The housing position on March 31st, 1946, was :—

Dwelling-houses in respect of which the Council had made arrangements to re-house persons from condemned property ... .. 188

Number of dwelling-houses commenced (including those completed) ... .. 142

Number of houses completed to date ... .. 114

Number of houses remaining to be completed ... .. 74

The following is a summary of the different types of dwelling-houses erected by the Local Authority up to March 31st, 1946 :—

Houses built under :	No. of Houses	No. of Apartments			
		2	3	4	5
Act, 1890 ...	149	...	86	4	59
Housing Act, 1919	79	...	...	69	10
„ „ 1924	744	80*	310	353	1
Housing Acts, 1930-6	244	...	30	214	...
Total ...	1,216	80*	426	640	70

\* Aged Persons Houses.

The total number of houses controlled by the Urban District Council is now 1,223, including 5 requisitioned houses and 2 other houses.

## SECTION E.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### (a) Milk Supply.

The following are details of persons and premises registered under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, within the district :—

Number of cowkeepers	...	...	...	16
Number of wholesale and retail purveyors of milk	...	...	...	53
Number of dairies	...	...	...	15

There are 35 retail purveyors of milk registered for the sale of milk in closed and unopened bottles in which it is delivered to the premises.

Visits to cowshed and dairy premises numbered 89. The premises inspected were found generally to be satisfactory.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations the following licences were granted during the year :—

Licences to sell " Pasteurised " Milk (Supple- mentary Licence)	...	...	...	1
Licences to produce "Accredited " Milk (granted by County Council)	...	...	...	4

The following table shows the number of samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne,



for bacteriological and biological examination, and the results of the various tests :—

Designation	No. of Samples submitted	Type of Examination						Examination for Tubercle Bacilli	
		Coliform Test		Methylene Blue		Phosphatase Test			
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Neg.	Pos.
Accredited Milk ...	12	6	6	11	1	...	...	5	...
Pasteurised Milk ...	4	...	...	3	...	2	1	1	...
Non-designated Milk ...	28	26	3	24	...	...	...	12	...
Total number of Samples submitted ...	44	32	9	38	1	2	1	18	...

Where samples of designated milk failed to comply with the standards specified in the Regulations, the matter was taken up with the producer. Non-designated milk samples showing an unsatisfactory bacteriological standard were referred to the producers for their observations. Further visits and inspections of their premises are followed up by taking “repeat” samples.

**(b) Inspection of Meat and Slaughterhouses.**

As in the previous year, all slaughtering for the Urban District was carried out under Government control at Newcastle upon Tyne, the meat being transported in bulk to a local centre for final distribution to meat retailers.

Periodical inspections to shops, &c., were made during the year to see that the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations were being complied with. Informal Notices served resulted in improvements being carried out on 3 premises.

**Food Control.**

In the performance of the duties of Meat Inspector and Food Enforcement Inspector, 119 visits were carried out to food premises.

The following is a list of foodstuffs surrendered as unfit for human consumption and for which 106 certificates were issued :—

Tinned meat and M.F. Products	...	...	...	...	168 lb.
„ vegetables	...	...	...	...	70 lb.
„ fish	...	...	...	...	39 lb.
„ soups	...	...	...	...	19 lb.
„ milk	...	...	...	...	93 tins
Other tinned foods	...	...	...	...	— lb.
Beef	...	...	...	...	391 lb.
Sausage	...	...	...	...	48 lb.
Fish	...	...	...	...	35 lb.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	23 lb.
Eggs	...	...	...	...	42 doz.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	5 lb.
Butter	...	...	...	...	133 lb.
Margarine	...	...	...	...	29 lb.
Jam	...	...	...	...	100 lb.
Flour	...	...	...	...	125 lb.
Oats	...	...	...	...	28 lb.
Other foods	...	...	...	...	35 lb.

The following foodstuffs were returned to wholesalers as unfit for human consumption, viz. :—

Meat (English)	...	...	...	...	70 lb.
„ (frozen)	...	...	...	...	180 lb.
„ (tinned)	...	...	...	...	362 lb.
Butter	...	...	...	...	112 lb.

### Ice Cream.

Number of Producers registered	...	...	...	...	4
Number of Retailers registered	...	...	...	...	9

Samples taken and submitted for bacterial examination were satisfactory except in one case. Further samples from the producer's premises were found to give good results following a change in the use of stabilising material.



## SECTION F.

### Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

The number of scarlet fever cases which occurred in 1946 was 20, compared with 16 cases in 1945.

The number of diphtheria cases was 14, compared with 28 cases in 1945.

Diphtheria antitoxin is kept in stock for distribution to medical practitioners on request.

Diphtheria prophylaxis (APT) is obtained from the Public Health Laboratories, King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne, when required by medical practitioners.

#### **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

The number of children who are now immunised in the area is estimated as follows :—

Ages.		Total number of Children.	Estimated number Immunised.	Percentage.
0-4 years	...	1,470	515	35·03
5-14 years	...	3,080	1,853	53·47

The number of children who were immunised during 1946 was—

0-4 years	...	...	...	...	239
5-14 years	...	...	...	...	28
					—
		Total	...	...	...267



# **Tuberculosis—New Cases and Mortality for 1946.**

AGE PERIOD.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 Year	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5 Years	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
15 „	1	4	...	...	...	2	...	...
25 „	1	3	...	...	...	1	...	...
35 „	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	2
45 „	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
55 „	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
65 „ and up'ds	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	6	11	1	2	2	5	...	3

## **Tuberculosis.**

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—17 notifications were received, compared to 15 in 1945.

There were 7 deaths, compared to 4 last year.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—3 notifications were received, compared to 2 in 1945.

There were 3 deaths, compared to 1 last year.

# Factories Act, 1937.

## 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health, including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises  (1)	Number of		
	Inspec- tions (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occu- piers Pros- ecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power ...	14	3	...
Factories without mechanical power ...	19	2	...
Other Premises (excluding outworkers' premises) ... ..	...	..	...
Total ... ..	33	5	...

## 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars  (1)	Number of Defects			
	Found (2)	Rem- edied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Pros- ecutions (5)
Want of cleanliness ... ..	1	1	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature ... ..	...	...	...	...
Inadequare drainage of floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences—				
(a) Insufficient ... ..	1	1	...	...
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	4	4	...	...
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other offences ... ..	...	...	...	...
Total ... ..	6	6	...	...







